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17. The method according to claim 11, wherein the effective bandwidth is derived from the sum of the first and second bandwidth.

18. The method according to claim 11, wherein the acceptance algorithm is started only once per connection to be one of potentially added and released.

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IN THE ABSTRACT: ✓ ✓

On page 15, delete lines 3-11 and insert the following new Abstract:

--In ATM connections, a number of connections are transmitted over common connecting sections. Connections being newly added to the number of connections are allowed according to the criterion of decisions undertaken by acceptance algorithms. The bandwidth of the totality of all the connections is estimated step-by-step with the setup/release of connections using a modification of the sigma rule algorithm.--.

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REMARKS

The present amendment makes editorial changes to the specification, drawings, claims and Abstract in order to conform to United States Patent Practice. Additionally, the Applicants include herewith a copy of the new Abstract on a separate page. None of the changes in the claims is intended as a surrender of any of the subject matter within the scope of the original claim language since, as noted above, all of these changes have been made solely to bring the claims into conformity with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

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Early consideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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